## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 7, 2023

The Honorable Robert P. Storch Inspector General Department of Defense 4800 Mark Center Drive Alexandria, VA 22350-1500

Dear Inspector General Storch:

We have completed a review of your May 3, 2023 response to the Grassley-Banks letter of August 17, 2022 concerning Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) Milley's actions as reported in several books.

We find your response deeply unsatisfactory and not in keeping with the spirit and intent of the Inspector General Act of 1978. Your letter concludes that "further inquiry" into CJCS Milley "is not warranted" but offers no supporting evidence to back up that conclusion, calling into question your office's commitment to its mission of transparency.

Your letter clearly indicates that the Department of Defense's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducted an extensive review of issues raised in our August 17 letter. However, OIG did not provide any of its findings in its letter to our offices or in any other report. Your letter completely bypasses the details revealed by OIG's investigation and leaps to a determination without answering a single one of our questions or offering one shred of evidence.

We cannot just accept your final determination at face value without any understanding or knowledge of the evidence that led you there. An IG should never attempt to withhold information developed during an inquiry triggered by congressional request, especially when said investigation concerns the alleged misconduct of the nation's top military officer.

Please produce all relevant evidence supporting your conclusion that further investigation is unwarranted to our offices without further delay.

You and OIG staff have a responsibility to walk us through the review that was conducted at our request and to provide answers to our questions. Our offices should be given an opportunity to examine those findings. If you refuse to give us that opportunity, then we will request permission to review the relevant OIG files ourselves.

We look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

Charles E. Grassley

**United States Senator** 

Jim Banks

Member of Congress